

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 11-245—sHB 6249

Energy and Technology Committee

Planning and Development Committee

Appropriations Committee

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS FOR THE
SITING OF WIND PROJECTS**

SUMMARY: This act requires the Connecticut Siting Council by July 1, 2012, in consultation with the departments of Public Utility Control and Environmental Protection, to adopt regulations concerning the siting of wind turbines. The regulations must at least consider (1) setbacks, including tower height and distance from neighboring properties; (2) flicker; (3) a requirement for the developer to decommission the facility at the end of its useful life; (4) different requirements for different size projects; (5) ice throw; (6) blade shear; (7) noise; and (8) impact on natural resources. The regulations must also require a public hearing for wind turbine projects.

By law, the council can approve proposals for electric generating facilities by (1) granting a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need or (2) issuing a declaratory ruling, depending on the facility's characteristics. The act bars the council from acting on any application or petition for siting a wind turbine until the regulations are adopted.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011

OLR Tracking: KM:VR:CR:ts